

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 had been pending.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanchez Herrero (US Patent No. 7,177,642) and Chander (US Patent no. 6,778,828).

The independent claims are 1, 7 and 11.

The Office Action takes Official Notice that Sanchez-Herrero's HSS conforms to the 'authentication server' of the claims and for evidence relies upon 3GPP TS 29.228 - pages 8-23.

However, the Office Action does not give a clear rejection rationale for claimed transferring of a telephone number, and appears to hold this limitation as strongly suggested by the relied upon references. Claim 1 is directed to switching over from use of the first terminal equipment to the use of the second terminal equipment without changing the subscriber telephone number, and achieving the switching of the equipment terminal by:

- (1) using the second terminal equipment with the same subscriber telephone number through position registration, upon receipt of an authentication request from the second terminal equipment, and
- (2) using the same subscriber telephone number and the changed second terminal subscriber identification number.

Unlike Sanchez-Herrero, the present invention makes it possible for a single user to use a plurality of terminals with the same subscriber number, thus there is no description for changing a terminal equipment without changing the subscriber telephone number in Sanchez-Herrero and 3GPP Standard TS29.228.

Independent claim 1 is amended to emphasize limitations of dependent claim 2 to more clearly emphasize that a first terminal equipment, which has been in use so far, is notified of renouncement of use thereof. In other words, the language of amended claim 1 clearly expresses switching of the terminal equipment while maintaining the same subscriber telephone number through position information registration, namely "notifying said first wireless terminal equipment of renouncement of its use when the position information registration for the second wireless terminal is requested of the exchange to enable call in and call out as the second wireless terminal equipment by means of the subscribed telephone number."

Regarding the rejection of claim 2, Sanchez Herrero column 13, lines 5-35 discuss de-registration which is about the operating procedure of registering or de-registering a terminal equipment, but not of switching a terminal equipment while using the same subscriber telephone number, namely the language of claim 1 provides ***“transferring by the authentication server the subscribed telephone number and the changed second terminal identification information ... to an exchange which allows communication with the second wireless terminal equipment and requesting position information registration permitting call in and call out of said second wireless terminal equipment by the subscribed telephone number ... notifying said first wireless terminal equipment of renouncement of its use when the position information registration for the second wireless terminal is requested of the exchange to enable call in and call out as the second wireless terminal equipment by means of the subscribed telephone number.”***

In other words, the language of claim 1 emphasizes switching over from use of the first terminal equipment to use of the second terminal equipment without changing the subscriber telephone number, but using the same subscriber telephone number. While Sanchez-Herrero discusses registration of a plurality of terminal equipments and to switch a terminal equipment, in Sanchez-Herrero it is always a single terminal equipment usable with the same subscriber telephone number, since Sanchez-Herrero does not discuss maintaining the ***same “subscriber telephone number”*** and is silent on use of the plurality of terminal equipments with the same subscriber telephone number, namely ***“transferring by the authentication server the subscribed telephone number and the changed second terminal identification information ... to an exchange which allows communication with the second wireless terminal equipment and requesting position information registration permitting call in and call out of said second wireless terminal equipment by the subscribed telephone number ... notifying said first wireless terminal equipment of renouncement of its use when the position information registration for the second wireless terminal is requested of the exchange to enable call in and call out as the second wireless terminal equipment by means of the subscribed telephone number.”***

Chander is relied upon for discussing use of biometric information.

Therefore, a prima facie case of obviousness of amended claim 1 over Sanchez-Herrero, Chander, and 3GPP standard TS 29.228, cannot be maintained, the Official Notice is traversed and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 7 and 11 emphasize limitations similar to the discussed limitations of amended claim 1.

The remaining dependent claims inherit the patentable recitations of their respective base claims, and therefore, patentably distinguish over the cited art for the reasons discussed above in addition to the additional features recited therein.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,
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